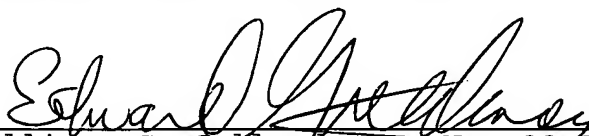


REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, the application has been amended to conform with U.S. practice, the cross-reference to related applications has been inserted on page 1 and the claims have been amended to delete the multiple dependencies. No new matter has been introduced. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
Norbert KOCH ET AL-1 (PCT)

COLLARD & ROE, P.C.  
1077 Northern Boulevard  
Roslyn, New York 11576  
(516) 365-9802  
ACC:djp

  
Allison C. Collard, Reg.No. 22,532  
Edward R. Freedman, Reg.No. 26,048  
Attorneys for Applicants

Express Mail No. **EV 590 259 660 US**  
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I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10, on the date indicated above, and is addressed to Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

  
Ingrid Mittendorf